

ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM



City of Woodburn

June 2014

Introduction

Government officials have long recognized the many benefits associated with implementing Adopt-A-Park programs across the state of Oregon. In creating an Adopt-A-Park program, the City of Woodburn will provide local citizens the opportunity to help beautify and care for city parks while assisting the City in maintaining clean, safe, and attractive public spaces for its residents.

Purpose

The City of Woodburn's Parks Maintenance Division is responsible for maintaining eleven developed park sites. The attractiveness of many of the parks can be enhanced with the assistance of local individuals and organizations who are willing to donate their time and efforts in support of park maintenance and beautification programs. The programs serve to:

- Enhance the maintenance and cleanliness of adopted parks.
- Promote community support for park beautification and anti-vandalism programs.
- Increase a sense of stewardship and pride towards the locally adopted parks.
- Build a positive image for the individual, family, business, or organization within the community.
- Provide experiences that educate the public about park maintenance activities and the recreational opportunities offered through their City Parks.
- Assist the City in keeping parks open and well maintained for public use.

Program Criteria

The program is intended for motivated organizations, groups or families who understand the physical work demand involved in park maintenance and acknowledge that safety precautions must be taken while performing maintenance work within a public park. The optimum size of participating groups is from two to ten people, depending upon the size of the adopted park and the tasks they agree to perform.

Political organizations desiring to use the program in campaign of a political cause would constitute an inappropriate use of City funds and is therefore prohibited.

Participants will be required to conduct specific park maintenance activities on their "adopted" park no less than four times yearly. The Parks Maintenance Division will work with the adopting group to select the specific park or park area to be adopted.

The list of maintenance activities to be carried out varies slightly from park to park, but generally the activities involve general cleaning, minor repairs, painting, tables, and buildings, trash removal, litter pickup, cultivating shrub beds that includes, weeding, planting, trimming brush, pruning, bark mulch spreading, and drip irrigation adjustments.

The adopting organization, group or family will be required to sign an agreement with the City which will outline the responsibilities and obligations of each party. Participating organizations, groups or families will be required to conduct safety meetings involving all participants prior to park maintenance activities.

The City will provide safety equipment, park maintenance and safety orientation, paint, hand tools, trash bags, gloves and other maintenance supplies. If the adopting organization volunteers agree to mow or weed-eat their adopted park, any related power equipment must be provided by the adopting organizations.

Participants may only adopt one park at a time and must commit to an adoption period of at least two years.

If desired, the City will notify news media of the adopting organization's activity. The City will, at the entrance of the adopted park, provide and install an Adopt-A-Park sign bearing the name of the organization, individual, or family.

The adopting organization will provide advance notification to the Park Maintenance Supervisor of litter collection or other activities where assistance is required to collect debris and or place materials.

If the Park adoption is to prevent a park closure, maintenance activities and tasks may be required to take place on a more frequent basis, normally every two (2) weeks.

Participants 18 years of age or older will be required to sign individual releases waiving the City of Woodburn from liability arising from activities in the program. Parents will be required to sign releases for children under the age of 18 who participate in the program.

Procedures

1. Organizations, groups or families interested in the program should direct inquiries to the City of Woodburn Parks Maintenance Division, 270 Montgomery Street, Woodburn, OR 97212, or call **503.982.5265**.
2. The City of Woodburn Parks Maintenance Division will provide information concerning the program and distribute information packets upon request.
3. Applications returned to City of Woodburn Parks Maintenance Division will be reviewed for eligibility and safety with respect to the park desired for adoption. If assistance is requested in selecting an appropriate park for the group, the Community Services Director or designee will assist in making a determination.
4. Upon approval of an application, the organization will be asked to submit a properly completed agreement along with signed individual releases.
5. The department will proceed to have Adopt-A-Park signs made and erected at each adopted park.

6. The organization will notify the Parks Maintenance Supervisor at least five (5) working days in advance of a planned Park Maintenance event.
7. The City of Woodburn Parks Maintenance Division Supervisor or his designee will provide the organization upon request, all supplies and equipment necessary to perform the required maintenance.
8. The group will hold a safety and orientation meeting with Parks Maintenance Division personnel prior to initiating the first maintenance activity.

General Information

503-982-5265

Program Manager

Jim Row, Community Services Director

Parks Maintenance Supervisor

Ron Palmer – 503-710-0311